

# Nebraska Standards Revision Process

**WHAT?**

**K-12 Comprehensive Content Standards**

Broad statements of intent in a content area

*WHAT* should students know and/or be able to demonstrate??

**Grade Level Standards**

A grade level specific curricular aim

**Curricular Indicators**

Examples of student demonstrations

**HOW WELL?**

Performance Level Descriptors
Advanced
Proficient
Progressing
Beginning

*HOW WELL* did the student perform?

# Standards Revision Criteria

September 2007

The purpose of the standards, assessment and reporting system is to support accountability for continuous school improvement.

**The standards will:**

- **focus on students before content.**
- be broad, deep and few, representing the most essential and enduring concepts.
- reflect on-going research and best practice.
- reflect knowledge and skills relevant to citizens of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- include STATEWIDE Performance Level Descriptors (PLD's) designated at four performance levels.

August 13, 2007

Dear

The Nebraska Department of Education is forming a Design Team and a network of Advisory and Work Committees to guide, inform, and support the implementation of LB# 653 into the STARS system. Please view the attached Work Flow Process diagram illustrating the plan for the interaction of these groups.

One of the components of LB #653 calls for the revision of the Nebraska Content Area Standards. The Department would like to invite you to serve on the Standards Revision Advisory Group, whose responsibility it is to oversee the implementation of LB #653 criteria established by the Design Team and make specific decisions pertinent to standards revision. Several meetings have been scheduled for this Advisory Committee during 2007-08. Those dates are as follows:

Friday, September 21 – Lincoln  
Monday, January 14 – Kearney  
March - TBA

Travel and lodging expenses will be reimbursed by the Department of Education.

Please respond with your willingness to serve on this committee to Jan Hoegh [jan.hoegh@nde.ne.gov](mailto:jan.hoegh@nde.ne.gov), (402-471-2818) by August 24<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate the fact that you are very busy, and that this is one more commitment to add to your already hectic schedule. However, we hope that you will see this opportunity as one to provide insight and wisdom in support of quality education for all students in the state of Nebraska. We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Donlynn Rice  
Administrator, Curriculum and Instruction

#653 Analysis Team Members: Doug Christensen, Polly Feis, Brian Halstead, Donlynn Rice, Marilyn Peterson, Bob Beecham, Pat Roschewski



# STARS: Reading Standards Revision Group



October 25 & 26, 2007

8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Yankee Hill Room, Cornhusker Hotel

## Meeting Agenda

October 25, 2007

8:30 Welcome/Introductions (Donlynn Rice)

8:45 "Enhancement of STARS" and Standards Revision (Doug Christensen)

*Dr. Christensen will 'set the stage' for the Standards Revision Process via a taped address.*

9:00 Overview of LB #653 – workflow process (Pat Roschewski)

*Pat will provide information regarding the STARS Enhancement Workflow Process AND pertinent LB #653 Analysis pieces. Carol McClain will briefly share about the grant recently awarded to NDE.*

9:15 Design Team AND Standards Advisory Criteria/Purpose and charge for the Reading Standards Revision Group (Donlynn Rice)

*Donlynn will overview the criteria developed by the Design Team AND the Standards Advisory Group. She will outline how these criteria guide the work of the Reading Standards Revision Group. Additionally, Donlynn will provide a purpose and charge for this work group.*

9:35 NCLB and Standards Revision (Marilyn Peterson)

*Marilyn will answer the question, "How does NCLB impact the Standards Revision Process?"*

9:50 "Twenty-first Century Skills" (Mike Kozak)

*The Standards Advisory Group developed a criterion related to 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and knowledge. This presentation will provide participants foundational information related to this topic.*

## 10:15 Break

## 10:30 'Café' Discussion Activity (Jan)

*This activity will engage participants in discussions related to reading standards content. The objective of the activity is to prepare all work group members for standards writing by promoting visionary thinking regarding reading and writing.*

*Topics to be discussed are: reading, writing, speaking and listening (informational technology will be integrated into the conversations). The facilitator will provide explicit instruction regarding the intent of the following questions, which will be the focus of each table discussion:*

- *When you think of a student as a 'reader,' what do you expect to see?*
- *To be considered a 'reader,' what does a student have to know and be able to do?*
- *Standards were developed ten years ago. What changes have occurred since then that should impact reading and writing standards?*

*\*\*\*writer, speaker, or listener will be substituted for 'reader' at the various tables*

*Participants will be grouped and assigned to a table. Each table discussion will last approximately 15 minutes, with a few additional minutes being allowed for summarizing the conversation. Each table will be assigned an NDE table 'host,' whose role is to record highlights of the conversation (which will be shared with the whole group after lunch). The goal is for all participants to rotate tables a minimum of three times.*

## 11:45 Lunch (Garrett Room)

*Kim Larson will introduce our noon presenter, Randy Vlastin, Director of FutureForce Nebraska. He will discuss expectations of the business world related to literacy (15 minute presentation).*

## 1:00 Summary of 'Café' Activity

*NDE table 'hosts' will share conversation highlights (3 to 5 minutes each) from the 'café' discussion activity.*

## 1:20 Resources for Standards Writing (Kim Larson)

*Examples of content standards from other states will be presented to the group. This resource will be used for the writing task that follows.*

## 1:45 Writing of Learning Goals (Donlynn/Jan)

*Specific information regarding format will be provided (learning goals, grade level indicators, performance level descriptors).*

*Participants will be in K-12 groups and given the task of drafting learning goals related to a discussion topic from the morning (reading, writing, speaking, listening). The examples from other states may be used during this process.*

*Groups will build a break into this work time.*

### 3:30 Share-out of Learning Goals (Jan)

*Products of the writing process will be shared at this time.*

### Closure (Donlynn)

October 26, 2007

### 8:30 Review of previous day (Donlynn)

### 8:45 Grade Level Indicator Development (Jan)

*The goal of the day will be presented:*

**"The goal of today is to write Grade Level Indicators for grades 1, 4, 8, and 12."**

*Each participant will be provided with the following resources for this writing activity.*

- *A copy of the content standards drafted the previous day*
- *NE RWSL content standards*
- *National Reading Standards*
- *Standards from other states*
- *Word lists from Café activity*

*Participants will work in groups to draft grade level indicators in the target grades of 1, 4, 8, and 12. The standards visual will be referenced during the explanation of this activity. Two groups within each grade band will work independently of each other to answer the following question regarding our current standards:*

*What is critical for students to know and be able to do at each specified grade level?*

*The majority of the morning will be spent drafting Grade Level Indicators.*

**11:30 Lunch (Olive Branch Room)**

*Kim Larson will introduce our noon presenters, Chris Gallagher and Shari Stenberg, both from UNL. Chris and Shari will discuss writing expectations of the post-secondary world (30 minute presentation).*

**12:30 Grade Level Indicator Alignment (Donlynn/Jan)**

*Participants will be regrouped into K-12 teams. The task of these groups involves looking for alignment across grade levels. After set amount of time, a share-out will take place.*

**2:00 Share-out (Donlynn/Jan)**

*Content Standards and Grade Level Indicators will be displayed via technology to the entire group for discussion.*

**2:45 Closure (Donlynn)**

- *Here's where we were*
- *Here's where we are*
- *Here's where we are going*

**Standards Revision Work Group**  
**November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007**  
**8:30 to 3:30, Conference Room A**

8:30 - Donlynn

**Welcome/Introductions:**

Donlynn will welcome participants and facilitate introductions. She will provide a brief overview of the day (the agenda will be part of the powerpoint), then present the objective.

**Objective for Work Session:**

*Participants will collaboratively produce a draft of standards that includes overall learning goals and the aligned grade-level content inherent in grades 1, 4, 8 and 12.*

8:45 - Kim

**Overview of R/W/S/L Standards Draft:**

Kim will provide information regarding the document she created from the draft of standards that was developed on October 25 and 26 (copies will be provided for participants). She will also facilitate a conversations regarding:

1. skills versus strategies
2. concept areas (areas still needed?)

9:00 - Jan

**Enhancement of Vertical Framework:**

Participants will be organized into the following trios:

Reading	Writing	Speaking/Listening
Jenn Utecht	Marilou Jasnoch	Melissa Schroeder
Karen Saunders	Linda Beckstead	Amy Hill
Susan Johnston	Sue Galvin	Summer Stephens

Each group of three has been assigned a strand to examine. The task of each threesome is to look at each statement underneath the learning goals and determine whether or not the particular statement fits where it has been placed. If not, movement is encouraged (groups will work via the three wall charts).

Once this step is completed, two group members will rotate to a new strand (one group member will remain at the original strand) and will consider changes that



have been made and will make recommendations for additional changes. Rotation to all three groups will occur.

If necessary, a whole group discussion will occur at the conclusion of the rotations.

11:30 - WORKING LUNCH

### **Horizontal Progression of Content:**

Participants will be organized into the same groups of three from the previous activity with the same strand assignments. The task for each trio is to determine whether or not each concept statement is appropriate for the grade level assigned and whether or not additional content statements are needed.

At the conclusion of the allotted time period, a share-out of recommendations by each group will occur. The determination of changes will result through group discussion and consensus of all participants.

### **Comparison of Current versus Revised Standards:**

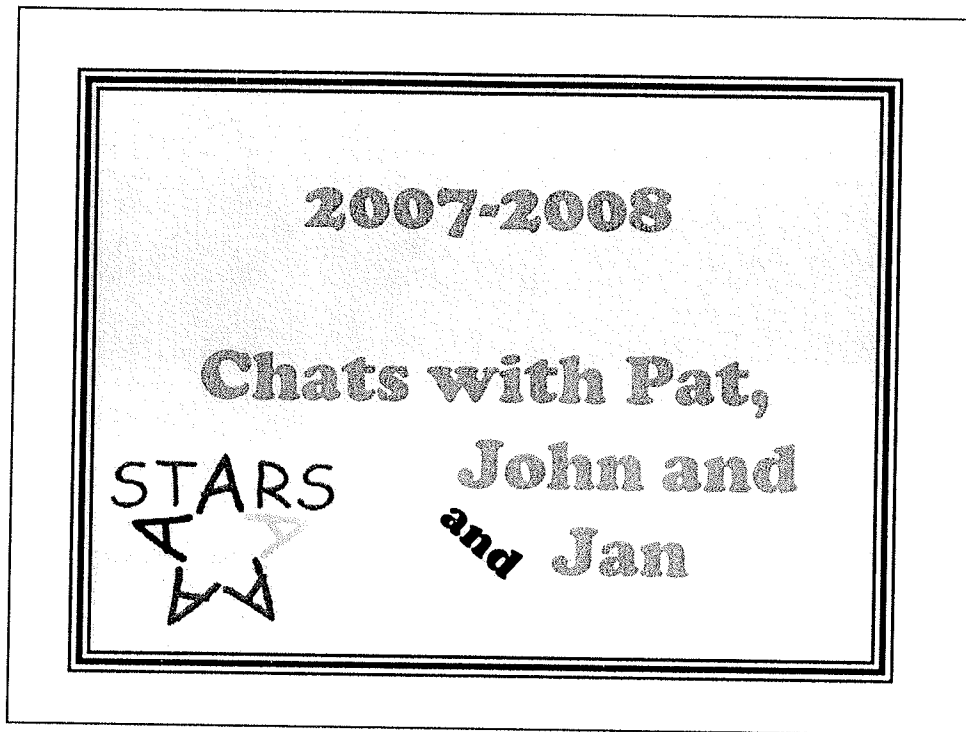
Participants will continue to work with same group of three for this activity. They will be provided a copy of the current R/W/S/L Standards. The task assigned is to compare current Standards language with revised language by following these steps:

1. Use a highlighter to identify common language between the two documents(Kim's document and current R/W/S/L Standards)
2. Determine how the current language can be incorporated into the revised content statements
3. Write new content statements (that reflect common language) on a blank magnetized index card
4. Place new content statements appropriately on wall chart in place of an existing card


3:15 - Donlynn

### **Closure:**

Reflections on the day will be requested, as well as recommendations for future work.




**Agenda**



- ❖ Implementation of Standards, Assessment, Reporting (Section 79-760.03; formerly LB 653)
- ❖ NCLB - What's New?
- ❖ Nebraska Led Peer Review of STARS
  - ✓ 2007-08 Process
  - ✓ Technical Clarifications
  - ✓ Integrated Visits
- ❖ Nebraska Student and Staff Record System
  - ✓ CDC
  - ✓ Upcoming Changes

STARS



# Standards, Assessment, Accountability



## Standards, Assessment, Accountability

### ❖ Workflow Process---Transparency

- ✓ Membership
- ✓ Committees Upcoming
- ✓ Implementation Plan

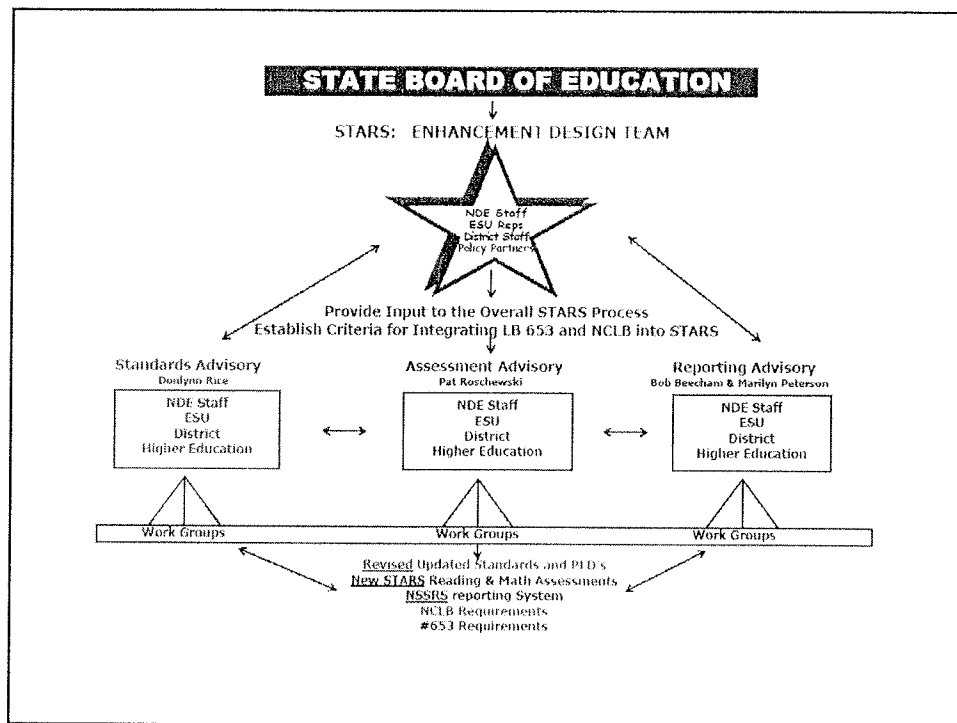


### ❖ Steps Taken



- ✓ Standards Revision
- ✓ Assessment
- ✓ Reporting





Standards, Assessment, Accountability Progress	
Date	Activity of Group
9/4	Reporting Advisory Group met
9/11	Design Team established Design Criteria to guide the work
9/21	Standards Advisory Group – provided input
10/25 and 10/26	Standards Work Group generated a first draft of standards
11/5	Assessment Advisory Group – provided input
11/30	Standards Editing Group began to review standards content
12/4	Reporting Advisory Group met – provided input
12/6	State Board of Education – sharing initial draft of standards
	<b>Future Activities</b>
1/7	Standards Editing Group meeting
1/14	Joint meeting of Design Team, Standards and Assessment Advisory Groups
1/31 and 2/1	Standards Revision work continues
2/12	Assessment Work Groups begin

# ★ STARS Enhancement Criteria ★

## Standards Advisory

The purpose of the standards, assessment and reporting system is to support accountability for continuous school improvement.

The standards will:

- focus on students before content.
- be broad, deep and few, representing the most essential and enduring concepts.
- reflect on-going research and best practice.
- reflect knowledge and skills relevant to citizens of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- include STATEWIDE Performance Level Descriptors (PLD's) designated at four performance levels.

### Nebraska Standards Revision Process

#### WHAT?

**Learning Goal**  
General statements of intent in a content area

WHAT should students know and/or be able to demonstrate??

#### Grade Level Expectation

A grade level specific curricular aim related to a learning goal

#### HOW WELL?

Performance Level Descriptors
Advanced
Proficient
Progressing
Beginning

HOW WELL did the student perform?

**Reading/Writing/Speaking/Listening Standards Draft**  
(12/5/07)

**READING Goal 1:**

Students will learn and apply skills and strategies as they construct meaning while reading.

By the end of:	Grade 1	Grade 4	Grade 8	Grade 12
(Phonemic Awareness)	Students will demonstrate phonological awareness.			
(Word Study)	Students will use phonics to decode words.	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
(Fluency)	Students will develop accuracy, phrasing, and expression while reading.	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
(Vocabulary)	Students will build and use vocabulary knowledge while reading, writing, speaking and listening.	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
(Knowledge of Print and Text Structure)	Students will demonstrate knowledge of the concepts of print.	Students will identify and apply knowledge of organizational elements of narrative and informational text.	Students will identify and apply knowledge of organizational elements of narrative and informational text.	Students will identify and apply knowledge of organizational elements to analyze narrative and informational text.
(Comprehension)	Students will monitor and self-correct while reading for comprehension.	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

**NCLB** 2001  
**What's New?**

**STARS**  
A  
B



# STARS: Standards Revision Work Group



January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008

8:30 am – 3:30 pm

NE Department of Education, Conference Room A

## Meeting Agenda

Welcome

Objective of the Day

*Participants will collaboratively examine the current Reading/Writing/Speaking/Listening Standards in order to determine specific wording for the Standards Draft and Example Performance Indicators.*

Overview of R/W/S/L Standards Draft

Alignment between Current and Revised Standards

Determination of Revised Standards Language

Participants will discuss rationale for the inclusion of example performance indicators

Development of Example Performance Indicators

Closure

*Thank you for your commitment to the enhancement of STARS!*



# Advisory Group Joint Meeting



*Design Team~Standards Advisory~Assessment Advisory*

January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Kearney Holiday Inn

## Meeting Summary

Jan Hoegh

Welcome/Introductions

Jody Isernhagen and Chris Gallagher

Purpose for the Day

- Share the most recent standards document/gather input
- Begin to discuss assessment design/timeline/implementation
- Provide recommendations to be made to the State Board of Education

Pat Roschewski

Standards, Assessment Accountability Update

- Provide an update on the meetings since summer.
- Provide an overview of the work that has been accomplished.
- Provide an overview of the next steps, timeline, etc.

Donlynn Rice

Standards Revision Update

- Discuss standards process and overview work accomplished.
- Share working documents of most recent version of reading standards.
- Answer questions about the process thusfar.

BREAK

Jody and Chris

Examination of Standards Draft Document

- Discuss the question: "How do the draft revised standards impact the design and implementation of assessment for districts?"



- Report out and open discussion

Pat Roschewski and Bob Beecham

Reporting of ACT

- Outlined current practice, the steps taken thus far, and the State Board's motion for action in February.
- Requested feedback on the question: "What do you want the State Board of Education to know in regard to collecting individual student ACT data (and other individual national test results through the NSSRS?"

## WORKING LUNCH

Jody and Chris

Advisory Group Planning

- Discussed four assessment questions:
  - ✓ Which standards should be measured on the state reading assessment?
  - ✓ At what grade levels(s) should the state reading assessment be administered?
  - ✓ What is the best time of year for state reading and math assessments to be administered?
  - ✓ What recommendations would you make about assessment design?

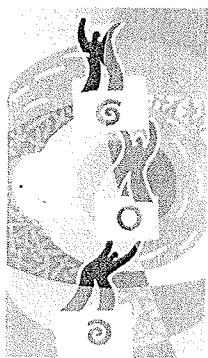
## BREAK (Conclusion of meeting for Standards and Advisory Groups)

- The standards and assessment advisory groups were dismissed, and the Design Team had a final discussion about possible recommendations and adjustments of the work they had seen.
- These recommendations would be some of the information provided to the State Board of Education.

Jody and Chris

Design Team Discussion

Closure



# Reading Standards Revision Group Meeting

January 31 and February 1, 2008

8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel

## Meeting Agenda

January 31<sup>st</sup> (Arbor Room)

### *Welcome (5 minutes)*

*Donlynn will welcome the group and 'set the stage' for this two day work session.*

### *Overview of Agenda and Update of Standards Revision Process (100 minutes)*

*Jan will facilitate a brief meeting introductory activity. Following this, she will overview the meeting agenda and the three objectives for the two-day work session:*

- *Provide an update for the Reading Standards Revision Work Group*
- *Finalize language of 1, 4, 8, and 12 Content Standards and Grade Level Expectations*
- *Develop Example Indicators for each Grade Level Expectation*

*Donlynn Rice will talk about the Standards Visual---particularly the changes that have occurred since October. She will also talk about the State Board of Education in relation to the Reading Standards revision process.*

*Kim Larson will present information regarding the current Reading Standards draft. She will share how this document has evolved and other pertinent information that will provide understanding to our work group.*

*Kim will introduce three individuals from the Standards Revision Sub-group, who will share important information from the two work sessions that occurred on November 30 and January 7 (Karen Saunders-Reading, Linda Beckstead-Writing, Amy Hill-Speaking/Listening). Each of these individuals will talk for about 10 minutes.*

*Kim will talk about Peter Dewitz and Freddy Hiebert and their involvement in our standards revision process. Two individuals will share their insights regarding these two informational sessions (Melissa Schroeder-Peter Dewitz, TBA-Freddy Hiebert).*

*Jan will introduce Marianne Perie and give her an opportunity to share her insights regarding our Reading Standards revision process.*

10:15 Break

### *Examination/Revision of K-12 Content Standards (75 minutes)*

*Jan will facilitate an examination of the K-12 Content Standards. Foundational information will be provided to the group regarding the purpose of these 'goal statements' and their involvement. The following steps will occur during this activity:*

- *Participants will work in table groups and will determine a group recorder and a group reporter*
- *Participants will be instructed to discuss each of the Content Standards and record any proposed revisions on the recording sheet that is part of the participant packet.*
- *Jan will facilitate a share-out---changes that the entire group supports will be reflected on the wall charts.*

11:45 Lunch (Hawthorne Room)

### *Examination/Revision of Grade Level Expectations (90 minutes)*

*Jan will facilitate an examination/revision of Grade Level Expectations. Foundational information will be provided to the group regarding the purpose of the Grade Level Expectations and their involvement. The following steps will occur during this activity:*

- *Work group members will reorganize themselves to work by strand (Reading Writing, Speaking/Listening). Members of the sub-group will serve as group leaders/reporters for this activity (Reading-Susan Johnston Writing-Marilou Jasnoch, Speaking/Listening-Melissa Schroeder).*
- *Within each strand group, participants will place themselves into small groups of three or four (K-12 representation is necessary).*
- *A group recorder will be selected.*
- *Each small group will discuss an assigned group of concepts across the grade levels and determine whether or not revisions are desired. Revisions will be recorded.*
- *When small groups have been given adequate time, they will come together for a total 'strand' discussion (led by Standards Revision Sub-group members). The entire strand group will determine changes to Grade Level Expectations and will denote these changes on the wall charts.*

2:15 Break

*Jan will facilitate a whole-group share-out regarding proposed changes to the Reading Standards draft. Susan, Marilou and Melissa will overview the needed changes proposed by each Strand Group. Discussion regarding these changes will occur.*

*\*Following this session, new wall chart cards will be created to reflect changes.*

## 3:45 Closure

### February 1<sup>st</sup> (Yankee Hill I Room)

#### *Review of Previous Day (15 minutes)*

*Donlynn will welcome the group back and overview the accomplishments of Day 1. She will introduce Day 2 by providing some background information on Example Indicators, as well as information regarding the inclusion of indicators in our revised Reading Standards*

#### *Development of Examples Related to Grade Level Expectations (remainder of day)*

*Jan will facilitate the development of Example Indicators. The following steps will occur during this activity:*

- Work group members will reorganize themselves to work by strand (Reading, Writing, Speaking/Listening). Members of the sub-group will serve as group leaders for this activity.*
- Within the strand of Reading, participants will place themselves into small groups of three or four (K-12 representation is necessary). There will be just one group of individuals working on Writing and Speaking/Listening.*
- Each small group in the Reading strand will work on one concept all four grade levels, to write indicators. A template will be provided for this task (both hard copy and electronically for recording indicators)*

#### *11:30 Lunch (Yankee Hill I & II)*

#### *Development of Examples Related to Grade Level Expectations*

*Jan will facilitate the first share-out of Example Indicators. The following steps will occur during this activity:*

- Within the Reading strand, two small groups will join to share with one another. The Writing and Speaking/Listening group will share with one another.*

- All groups will share the Examples they have developed and receive input from the other group. Examples will be revised as the total group agrees.

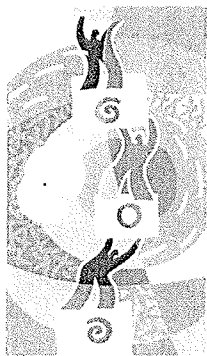
### *Share-out of Examples*

- The entire Reading Standards Revision Group will come back together for this share-out. Results of their small group work will be displayed on the screen for the entire group to view (memory sticks will be needed in order for this electronic display to occur).

### *3:30 Closure*

- Kim will talk with the group about her plans for electronic sharing of the Reading Standards draft for statewide input.
- Pat (or Jan) and Marianne will offer thoughts about future Performance Level Descriptor Development.
- Donlynn will also make some closing comments to the group

*Thank you for your commitment to standards development and revision in Nebraska!*



# Standards Work Group Meeting

## Implementation of LB #653

February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Nebraska Department of Education, V-Tel Room

### Meeting Agenda

#### *Welcome/Introductions*

#### Objective of Meeting:

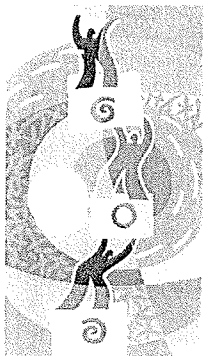
*Participants will offer input regarding the Reading Standards revision process, specific to technology and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills.*

#### Tasks for Meeting:

- *Determine terminology for "multiple literacies"*
- *Determine which strands include "multiple literacies" concept*
- *Discuss other strands that address 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills*
- *Develop multiple literacy examples for grades, 1, 4, 8, and 12*

3:00 Closure

*Thank you for your commitment to standards, assessment and reporting in Nebraska!*



# Reading Standards Revision Work Group Meeting

March <sup>3rd</sup>, 2008

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Nebraska Department of Education, Room B  
Meeting Agenda

*Welcome/Introduction to Meeting/Overview of Agenda*

*Individual examination of standards document*

*Round-robin discussion*

BREAK

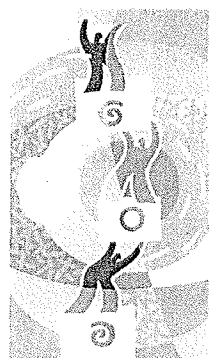
*Group work to examine/revise example indicators*

Working Lunch (discuss possible content for Standards Overview Document)

*Continue example indicator work*

*Examination of alignment to current standards*

CLOSURE



# Standards Work Group Meeting

## Implementation of LB #653

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Nebraska Department of Education, V-Tel Room

### Meeting Agenda

#### *Welcome/Overview of Meeting*

#### Objective of Meeting:

*Participants will offer input regarding the Reading Standards revision process, specific to technology and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills.*

#### Task for Meeting:

- *Continue to develop Research and Inquiry and Multiple Literacies curricular indicators for grades, 1, 4, 8, and 12*

Working Lunch - Participants will discuss definitions related to Research, Inquiry, and Multiple Literacies.

3:00 Closure